REMARKS

Elections/Restrictions

The Examiner has restricted the application to one of the following inventions:

I.   Claims 2-10, 12-24, 28-31, and 35-37 drawn to methods of diagnosing disease associated with IRF6 dysfunction using nucleic acid based methods, classified in class 435, subclass 6.

II.   Claim 11, drawn to a method of diagnosing susceptibility to Van der Woude syndrome, Poplitieal pteryguim syndrome or isolated cleft lip and/or palate by detecting an alteration in the activity of a polypeptide encoded by an IRF6 gene, classified in class 514, subclass 1.

III.   Claims 25 and 27, drawn to a method of identifying an agent which modulates activity of a polypeptide encoded by an IRF6 nucleic acid which comprises at least one polymorphism in table 1, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.

IV.   Claim 26, drawn to a method of identifying an agent which alters expression of a variant IRF6 nucleic acid which comprises least one polymorphism shown in table 1, classified in class 536, subclass 24.51

V.   Claim 32, drawn to a method of diagnosing disease associated with IRF6 dysfunction by contacting a biological sample with a solid support which allows interaction with a recombinant host cell, class in class 435, subclass 325.

VI.   Claim 33, drawn to a method of diagnosing associated with IRF6 dysfunction by contacting a biological sample with a solid support which allows interaction with an isolated polypeptide encoded by an IRF6 nucleic acid which comprises at least one polymorphism in table 1, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.
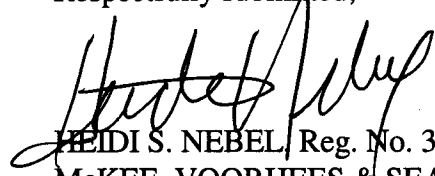
VII. Claim 34, drawn to a method of diagnosing disease associated with IRF6 dysfunction by contacting a biological sample with a solid support which allows interaction with an antibody which specifically binds to a polypeptide encoded by an IRF6 nucleic acid which comprises a polymorphism in table 1, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.

VIII. Claims 39, 41-50, 56-60, 62-63, drawn to IRF6 nucleic acids which comprise at least one polymorphism in Table 1, classified in class 536, subclass 23.1.

IX. Claim 40, drawn to a non human animal comprising a nucleic acid having SEQ ID NO: 1 and at least one polymorphism from table 1, classified in class 800, subclass 2.

X. Claims 51, 52, 61, and 64-65, drawn to an IRF6 polypeptide comprising a polymorphism from table 1, classified in class 530, subclass 350.

XI. Claims 53-55, and 66, drawn to an IRF6 antibody which binds to an IRF6 polypeptide comprising a polymorphism from table 1, classified in class 530, subclass 387.1.

Applicant provisionally elects Group I, Claims 2-10, 12-24, 28-31, and 35-37 drawn to methods of diagnosing disease associated with IRF6 dysfunction using nucleic acid based methods, classified in class 435, subclass 6 with traverse. Applicant further elects the Arg 84 mutation from table 1.

No fees or extensions of time are believed to be due in connection with this amendment; however, consider this a request for any extension inadvertently omitted, and charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 26-0084.

Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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